

Remarks

Claims 14, 15, 17, 19 and 20-29 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-13 were previously canceled; claims 16 and 18 are cancelled in this response.

Claims 14-19 were rejected in the Office action; claims 20-29 were allowed in the Office action.

Drawings were objected to on the grounds that "a means for cutting a one or more bonded products" recited in claims 15, 19, 21 and 28 are not shown in the drawings. Applicants submit amended drawing sheets included with this response as Replacement Sheets 4/5 and 5/6 overcome the objection to the drawings.

Claims 14-19 were rejected as being anticipated by Steiner et al. (US 6,770,380). Steiner discloses bonding resin sheet 26 to a metal sheet 22 that is temporarily attached to metallic substrate 24 during the bonding process (e.g. FIG. 1). Metallic substrate 24 is removed after the bonding process to produce a circuit board product that comprises the bonded resin sheet 26 and metal sheet 22. Steiner teaches using a removable metallic substrate in a bonding process to serve as an inductive heating element for bonding the non-metallic resin sheet 26 to metal sheet 22.

Claims 14, 16-18 were rejected as being anticipated by Balla (US 3,941,643). Balla discloses bonding a laminate web 1, which comprises a support layer of paper and a metal foil layer, with plastic layer 3 (col. 2, lines 51-59) to form a composite packing laminate.

Claims 14, 16-18 were rejected as being anticipated by Adcock et al. (US 3,556,887). Adcock discloses bonding of a metal foil 1 with a polyethylene film 3 to form a metal-thermoplastic laminate.

Claims 15 and 19 were rejected as being obvious over Balla or Adcock in view of James (US 3,461,014), which discloses a cutter knife K that can be used "to cut off individual containers, bags, pouches and the like, while the two webs (sheets) continue to travel through the induction field and through the rollers." (col. 6, lines 61-64). The web (sheet) comprises a non-metallic thermoplastic sheet material with metallic oxides

applied at selected sealing areas that are inductively heated (col. 2, line 58 through col. 3, line 2).

Currently amended claim 14 recites an induction bonding apparatus for bonding a bond metal sheet that substantially comprises a bonding material, to a base metal sheet of material. The apparatus comprises a means for bringing the bond metal sheet and the base metal sheet adjacent to each other to form an adjacently disposed base-bond sheet, and one or more induction coils through which the adjacently disposed base-bond sheet passes to inductively heat at least the base metal sheet to bond the bond metal sheet to the base metal sheet to form a bonded sheet. As discussed above, Steiner bonds a non-metallic (resin) sheet to a metal sheet by adhering these non-metal and metal sheets to a metallic substrate, which is inductively heated. This heat is transferred to the non-metal resin sheet to bond the resin sheet to the metal sheet. The metallic sheet is removed after bonding. Amended claim 14 does not recite a temporary metallic substrate for bonding together non-metal and metal sheets; amended claim 14 recites in part the bonding of a bond metal sheet to a base metal sheet. As discussed above, Balla recites bonding a laminate web having a metal foil layer, backed with a paper layer, with a non-metallic plastic layer. Amended claim 14 recites in part the bonding of a bond metal sheet to a base metal sheet. As discussed above, Adcock discloses bonding of a metal foil to a non-metallic polyethylene film to form a metal-thermoplastic laminate. Amended claim 14 recites in part the bonding of a bond metal sheet to a base metal sheet. Applicants submit that amended claim 14 is not anticipated by Steiner, Balla or Adcock.

Claim 15 was rejected as being obvious over Balla or Adcock in view of James (US 3,461,014), which discloses a cutter knife to cut off the ends of bags that are formed from sheets of thermoplastic materials that are inductively sealed in selected regions having metal particles. Claim 15 is dependent on currently amended claim 14, which recites in part the bonding of a bond metal sheet to a base metal sheet to form a bonded sheet; claim 15 further recites a means for cutting one or more bonded products from the bonded sheet. As discussed above, neither Balla nor Adcock teach bonding a bond metal sheet to a base metal sheet, and James does not teach the cutting of a bonded product from a bonded sheet formed from a bond metal sheet and a base metal sheet. Applicants

submit that claim 15 is not obvious over Balla or Adock in view of James.

Currently amended claim 17 recites a method of bonding a bond metal sheet substantially comprising a bonding material to a base metal sheet wherein the bond metal sheet is placed adjacent to the base metal sheet to form an adjacently disposed base-bond sheet, and the adjacently disposed base-bond sheet is inductively heated by passing the base-bond sheet through one or more induction coils to form a bonded sheet. As discussed above Steiner, Balla and Adcock do not teach the bonding of a bond metal sheet to a base metal sheet. Applicants submit that currently amended claim 17 is not anticipated by Steiner, Balla or Adcock.

Currently amended claim 19 recites a method of forming one or more bonded products by placing a bond metal sheet adjacent to a base metal sheet, that comprises a substantially electrically conductive composition, to form an adjacently disposed base-bond sheet, inductively heating the base metal sheet by passing the adjacently disposed base-bond sheet through one or more induction coils, melting the bond metal sheet from the heat of the inductively heated base metal sheet to bond the bond metal sheet to the base metal sheet to form a bonded base-bond sheet and cutting the one or more bonded products from the bonded base-bond sheet. As discussed above, Steiner does not teach the bonding of a bond metal sheet to a base metal sheet. Applicants submit that currently amended claim 19 is not anticipated by Steiner. Further as discussed above, neither Balla nor Adcock teach bonding a bond metal sheet to a base metal sheet, and James does not teach the cutting of a bonded product from a bonded sheet formed from a bond metal sheet and a base metal sheet. Applicants submit that claim 19 is not obvious over Balla or Adock in view of James.

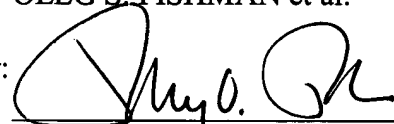
Allowed claims 24 and 29 are currently amended for technical corrections; Applicants submit the amendments do not affect the allowed status.

Applicants request allowance of all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:

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Amendments to the Drawings

FIG. 6 and FIG. 7 are amended by adding shear 41 as shown on attached Replacement Sheets 4/6 and 5/6.